

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 06475 171121Z

17

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 OMB-01 ACDA-19 AID-20 SAM-01

DRC-01 /175 W

----- 015836

R 161521Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5026

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, NI, PO, ZA

SUBJECT: GOWON COMMENTS ON PORTUGAL DURING PRESENTATION OF  
CREDENTIALS NEW ZAMBIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER TO NIGERIA

REF: LAGOS 4490 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: AT PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS BY NEW ZAMBIAN HIGH  
COMMISSIONER TO NIGERIA, GOWON COMMENTED ON NEW ATTITUDES OF  
FIRST POST-COUP GOP AND INDICATED SUPPORT FOR DISCUSSIONS  
BETWEEN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS AND GOP. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS BY NEW ZAMBIAN HIGH  
COMMISSIONER TO NIGERIA S. K. LOLOMO JULY 12, GOWON COMMENTED  
ON VALIANT STAND ZAMBIA WAS TAKING AGAINST RACIST REGIMES  
IN SOUTH AFRICA, AND PAID TRIBUTE TO ZAMBIA'S COURAGE AND  
DETERMINATION AND DEFENSE OF HUMAN DIGNITY.

2. IN ADDITION, GOWON TOOK OCCASION TO REFER TO LUSAKA  
MANIFESTO, INDICATING INDEPENDENT AFRICA WAS READY AND WILLING  
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PAGE 02 LAGOS 06475 171121Z

TO COOPERATE IN ARRANGEMENT FOR A PEACEFUL TRANSFER OF POWER

TO AFRICANS. HE EXPRESSED GRATIFICATION THAT NEW REGIME IN PORTUGAL HAD BEGUN TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS "GENUINE OFFER" BUT WARNED THAT TIME WAS RUNNING OUT AND MANIFESTO'S MESSAGE SHOULD NOT BE IGNORED OR AFRICA WOULD HAVE TO RESORT TO OTHER LEGITIMATE MEANS TO FREE ITSELF OF RACIST AND MINORITY REGIMES.

3. DURING PRESS INTERVIEW IN LATE JUNE, GOWON HAD COMMENTED THAT EVENTS IN PORTUGAL HAD CHANGED "THE SCENE AS FAR AS FUTURE OF COLONIAL AND RACIST COUNTRIES IN AFRICA IS CONCERNED." HE FURTHER SAID THAT FMG WOULD ENCOURAGE THESE DEVELOPMENTS (I.E., THE NEGOTIATIONS).

4. COMMENT: GOWON COMMENTS AT CREDENTIALS CEREMONY AND DURING INTERVIEW REPRESENT FIRST PUBLIC OFFICIAL NIGERIAN STATEMENT INDICATING SUPPORT OF GOP NEGOTIATIONS WITH LIBERATION MOVEMENTS OF ANGOLA, MOZAMBIQUE, AND GUINEA BISSAU. FMG LIKELY TO CONTINUE ITS SUPPORT OF DISCUSSIONS AS LONG AS THERE POSSIBILITY THEY WILL RESULT IN EVENTUAL TRANSFER OF POWER TO AFRICANS IN PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: WOULD APPRECIATE ANY BIO INFO DEPT. OR EMBASSY LUSAKA MAY HAVE ON S. K. LOLOMOREINHARDT

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PARAMILITARY FORCES, INDEPENDENCE, CREDENTIALS PRESENTATION, SPEECHES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 16 JUL 1974  
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